

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

April 1, 2005

Charles Oakes, Treasurer Oregon Republican Party 2720 Commercial St SE #210 Salem, OR 97302

Response Due Date: May 2, 2005

Identification Number: C00153031

Reference:

Year-End Report (11/23/04-12/31/04)

Dear Mr. Oakes:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above. An itemization of the information needed follows:

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your 30 Day Post-General Report (10/14/04-11/22/04). Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-The totals listed on Lines 6(c), 7, 11(a)(iii), 11(c), 11(d), 12, 17, 18(a), 18(c), 19, 20, 21(a)(i), 21(a)(ii), 21(b), 21(c), 30(a)(i), 30(a)(ii), 30(b), 30(c), 31 and 32, Column B of the Summary and Detailed Summary Page(s) appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Schedule A of your Amended 12 Day Pre-General Report (10/1/04-10/13/04), received 1/24/05, 30 Day Post-General Report (10/14/04-11/22/04) and Year-End Report disclose receipts totaling \$410,745.00 from the "2004 Joint State Victory Committee," which is a joint fundraising committee affiliated with your committee. The sum of the entries itemized on the memo Schedules A, however, total only \$135,731.69.

OREGON REPUBLICAN PARTY PAGE 2

Please be advised that a <u>memo</u> Schedule A must be provided to itemize <u>your committee's share</u> of the gross contributions received through the joint fundraiser. The memo schedule should itemize each individual who has contributed an aggregate in excess of \$200 during the calendar year, and provide the amount of unitemized contributions received. In addition, the memo schedule should itemize your committee's share of all contributions from political committees, regardless of amount. 11 CFR §102.17(c)(8)(i)(B) Please clarify this discrepancy.

-Schedule B supporting Line 22 discloses \$22,935.97 in transfers to what appears to be a non-federal account of your committee. Please provide further clarification regarding this transfer to your non-federal account.

You are advised that 11 CFR §102.5 prohibits a non-federal account from financing activity in connection with federal elections. If any of the disbursements disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 were made to influence the election or defeat of specific federal candidates, the disbursements should be allocated accordingly and disclosed as either in-kind contributions on Schedule B supporting Line 23, independent expenditures on Schedule E supporting Line 24, or as coordinated expenditures on Schedule F supporting Line 25. 11 CFR §§104.3(b)(3) and 106.1 In addition, if your non-federal account has paid any expenditures which should have been allocated, you are advised to correct any non-compliance with 11 CFR §§106.6 and 106.7 and establish procedures to insure future compliance with allocation regulations.

-Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "workers comp. Insurance." Please be advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(2), salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time in a given month on Federal election activity or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Further, the Commission concluded in Advisory Opinion 2003-11 that amounts spent for employee-specific "fringe benefits," consisting of health insurance, disability insurance, life insurance, retirement benefits and payroll taxes, fall into the category of compensated time.

Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for this payment is not permissible and must be returned. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

OREGON REPUBLICAN PARTY PAGE 3

-On Schedule H4, your allocated activity or event year-to-date total calculations for the Administrative and Voter Drive categories are incorrect. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for administrative, voter drive and exempt activity costs are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year for each separate category. Allocated activity or event year-to-date totals for fundraising and direct candidate support activities are derived by aggregating all disbursements during the calendar year within a specific event. These should be calculated by adding the latest disbursement for a category or event to the previous event year-to-date total for that category or event. This running event year-to-date total should be disclosed after each disbursement is listed. Please amend your report by providing the correct event year-to-date totals.

-Line 7, Column B of the Schedule L Aggregation Page for the KEY LEVIN account represents the total cash-on-hand as of January 1, 2004. This figure should be the same on all the reports covering the calendar year. Please amend your report to clarify the change made in Line 7, Column B.

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1135.

Marin de

Maureen Benitz

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst

Reports Analysis Division